

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON DECEMBER 9, 2021

Mission Statement: *"We are a community of learners. We will do whatever it takes to learn. We are building a strong foundation by believing we can, working our plan, then feeling the power of success."*

George Washington Academy
Thursday, November 11, 2021
7:30 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes

Location: George Washington Academy
2277 South 3000 East
St. George, Utah
Library

The Board Finance Training was held at 7:00 p.m. prior to the Board Meeting.

The Board meeting convened at 7:40 p.m.

Board Members Present: Shannon Greer, Kevin Peterson, Blake Clark, April Paxton, Holly Myers, Shauna Mahoney, Rachel Stewart, Casey Unrein, and Jaycee Rogers.

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Steve Erickson, LaNessa Stevens, Aubrey Johnson, Chance Manzanares, Debbie Kuavaka, Christine Giles, and Spencer Adams.

Board Welcome: Shannon Greer, President

Roll Call: Shannon Greer, President

Prayer: Kevin

Pledge of Allegiance: Christine Giles

Approval of Minutes:

Holly Myers motioned to approve the minutes from the October 28, 201 board meeting as presented in the board packet. Casey Unrein seconded the motion which passed unanimously (all present voted in favor).

Public Opportunity to Address the Board: None

Set time for adjournment: The time set for adjournment was 8:17 p.m.

Teacher Representative Report:

Christine Giles reported that the school counselor has 19 small groups with 5-10 students in each. The groups are focusing on a variety of topics including, anxiety management, change/divorce, social skills, impulse control, growth mindset, and positive sense of self. She reported about career week and the many community representatives that came to GWA to connect with the students, as well as the veterans who came at recess. The first graders created a habitat hallway to represent the habitats they have been learning about. The leadership teams are focusing on collaboration and improving classroom instruction.

Administration Report: Blake Clark, Executive Director, reported that all November reports are complete. Blake explained the student numbers correlated with the reading center. The students in the younger grades are spending more time in the reading center (typically more than 1 year) versus those that are older who typically “graduate” out of the reading center quicker. Blake explained that students in the younger graders are only qualified for the reading center if they are more than a year behind versus the students in the older grades who can qualify for the reading center if they are a few months behind because there is more space in the reading center.

Financial Report: Spencer Adams, Business Administrator, reported that there were a few adjustments from the finance meeting (increased repairs and maintenance, added teacher aides and reading specialists). Once the school receives the true up allotment, adjustments can be made. The monthly revenues are exceeding the expenses. The school is in a good position at this point in the year. Reports due after November 11, 2021 have not been completed yet.

Committee Reports (3 min each):

- **Policies Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Finance Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Benefits Committee** – Blake Clark reported that the insurance broker came to the school and people were able to sign up for benefits.
- **Curriculum Committee** – LaNessa Stevens, chair, reported that she is working on the curriculum parent video for the school.
- **Outreach Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Technology Committee** - Steve Erickson, chair, reported that the promethean boards arrived.
- **LAND Trust Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **PTO Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Board Development Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Campus Management Committee** – Nothing to report.

Discussion and/or Action Items:

- **Expenditures over \$5,000- none**

- **Proposal for Board Action: 2022-2023 Fee Schedule:** Kevin Peterson made a motion to accept the 2022-2023 Fee Schedule as presented in the board packet. Shauna Mahoney seconded. The motion passed unanimously (all present voted in favor).
- **Proposal for Board Action: Student Calendar 2022-2023 School Year:** Holly Myers made a motion to accept the 2022-2023 Student Calendar as presented in the board packet. Kevin Peterson seconded. Shauna Mahoney asked about the early out week following Christmas break. Blake Clark said that the calendar evenly spaced out the weeks between SEPs. Shannon Greer said that she was concerned about the dates the SEPs fell in January. Blake suggested to send a survey out to the teachers. Holly amended her motion to table voting on the student calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. Kevin seconded. Motion passed unanimously (all present voted in favor).
- **Proposal for Board Action: Policy 451- Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) and UT FERPA Policy:** Kevin Peterson made a motion to accept the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) and UT FERPA Policy as presented in the board packet. April Paxton seconded. The motion passed unanimously (all present voted in favor).
- **Proposal for Board Action: Policy 755: Effort of Maintenance Policy:** Casey Unrein made a motion to accept Policy 755: Effort of Maintenance Policy as presented in the board packet. Jaycee Rogers seconded. The motion passed unanimously (all present voted in favor).
- **Proposal for Board Action: Policy 310: Student Dress Policy:** April Paxton made a motion to accept Policy 310: Student Dress Policy as presented in the board packet. Rachel Stewart seconded. Shannon Greer asked if hoodies fit in the policy. Shannon expressed concerned whether the school is trying to justify the hoodies because they were sold in the Swag Store. Kevin Peterson questioned if the school could buy the hoodies back. Blake Clark said the policy committee was looking at more than just the hoodie. He clarified that the policy change wasn't because of the hoodies being sold, but rather the bigger picture of what swag attire could be worn. Holly Myers encouraged the committee to make the policy more clear to prevent misunderstandings. Holly suggested writing about how students can wear the hoodies and suggested that the hood cannot be worn on head while on school premises. Holly encouraged explicit language that clarifies what students *can* wear on dress down days. Blake said to rewrite the policy to “exclude hoodies” on outerwear days and include it on “Dress Down Fridays.” April recommended adding, “The hood cannot be worn inside the school building or in the classroom.” Holly suggested including, “Apparel that is purchased through GWA is allowed on “Dress Down Fridays.” Shannon suggested adding, “Hats are not allowed in the building.” Holly said that if the policy goes back to the committee that the board should review the policy committee minutes to understand the context. April made a motion to resend the motion to the policy committee.
- **Proposal for Board Action: Policy 485: Parent and Family Engagement:** Kevin Peterson made motion to accept Policy 485: Parent and Family Engagement as presented

in the board packet. Casey Unrein seconded. Shannon asked whether this policy is created because the state is asking for it and if there was an accountability portion. Blake Clark reported that the policy was more of a way to make the school more aware of their parent and family engagement. Holly Myers asked about the line, in section 3, that reads, “Parents will also be involved in helping to create the plan alongside administration. . .” and what that would look like in reality. Blake said that would look like administration creating a plan and then sending to it to all parents for feedback. Kevin suggested adding “invited” so the sentence reads, “All parents will be *invited* to be in involved in helping create the plan alongside administration.” Holly Myers pointed out a few grammatical errors in the policy. Kevin amended his motion to include the two corrections of adding the word “invited” and fixing the grammatical errors. Casey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (all present voted in favor).

- **State Audit and Accountability:** Shannon Greer recommended to table the discussion. Shauna Mahoney seconded. Blake Clark asked the board to think about how the school is accountable to the state. Motion passed unanimously.

Closed Meeting – *none*.

Reconvene — The board reconvened at 8:57 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next regular Board Meeting will be held on December 9, 2021 at 7:30pm.

Adjournment